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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/565,139

01/19/2006

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7590

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EXAMINER

HUYNH, NAM TRUNG

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2617

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

12/24/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/565,139	Applicant(s) MODY ET AL.	
	Examiner NAM HUYNH	Art Unit 2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 22-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 22-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This office action is in response to amendment filed on 1/19/06. Claims 22-38 are currently pending.

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 1/19/06, 9/4/06, and 12/16/08 has been considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 22-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Pruss et al. (uS 2004/0193513) (hereinafter Pruss).

Regarding claim 22, Pruss teaches a method for processing user requests for credit based network access, said method comprising:

receiving a user request for user access according to an authentication protocol (paragraphs 85, 86; SSG receives request message from mobile station);

forwarding user credentials in response to said user request (paragraph 89; SSG forwards the access request to an AAA server);

receiving an access response authenticating said credit-based network access, said access response containing a parameter having a credit value indicative of a length of available continued network access based on remaining user credit (paragraphs 76, 105; AAA server decides how long a mobile station is authorized to access a service based on a balance or quota);

transmitting a re-authentication request in response to said credit parameter value reaching a threshold value to cause a re-authentication to occur (paragraph 133; SSG receives an access request for service re-authorization); and

receiving and forwarding user credentials before granting further access to the network by said client device (paragraphs 142-144; SSG communicates with billing server before granting access).

Regarding claims 23, 27, and 36, Pruss teaches parameter comprises a session-timeout parameter associated with IEEE 802.1X authentication protocol (paragraph 125; session timer).

Regarding claim 24, Pruss teaches receiving a re-authentication response for re-establishing said network access based on said credit parameter value (paragraph 142; SSG receives quota information from the billing server).

Regarding claim 25, Pruss teaches the re-authentication response is based on the results of a comparison of said credit parameter value with said threshold value (paragraph 142; threshold value).

Regarding claims 26, 29, Pruss teaches said credit parameter value contained in said access response is based on one of: a) time usage; and b) traffic volume usage (paragraph 105).

Regarding claim 28, Pruss teaches said authentication server is a RADIUS authentication server, and further wherein said authentication server contains memory for storing said indicator of remaining user credit (paragraph 55; AAA server).

Regarding claim 30, Pruss teaches in response to said re-authentication process, said authentication server retrieves said indicator of remaining user credit and denies re-authentication of said client device when said indicator of remaining user credit drops below a threshold value (paragraph 142, connection is disconnected).

Regarding claim 31, Pruss teaches the indicator of remaining user credit comprises a credit timer indicative of the remaining credit balance, said credit timer being decremented according to a temporal access usage (paragraph 152).

Regarding claim 32, Pruss teaches the authentication server periodically updates the credit timer in units of: a) time and b) traffic volume (paragraphs 68, 69).

Regarding claim 33, Pruss teaches a method for processing user requests for credit based network access, said method comprising:

receiving user credentials associated with said user request for credit based network access (paragraph 123);

calculating, in response to said user credentials, a session-timeout parameter value based on remaining user credit and network charges, said session-timeout parameter value indicative of a length of available continued network access (paragraphs 125, 126);

embedding said session-timeout parameter value in an access response message authenticating said credit based network access (paragraph 128);

activating a credit timer having a value indicative of remaining user credit balance, said credit timer decremented according to a temporal access usage; forwarding said access response message (paragraph 125);

receiving said user credentials in response to a re-authentication request for re-authenticating said credit based network access (paragraph 133);

comparing said credit timer value with a predetermined threshold value; and determining whether said network access is de-authenticated from further network access based on said comparison (paragraph 133).

Regarding claim 34, Pruss teaches transmitting a re-authentication response message when said credit timer value is above said predetermined threshold value (paragraph 142).

Regarding claim 35, Pruss teaches transmitting a re-authentication response message when said credit timer value is below said predetermined threshold value (paragraph 142).

Regarding claims 37 and 38, the limitations are rejected as applied to claims 1 and 33.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NAM HUYNH whose telephone number is (571)272-5970. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 a.m.-5 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, George Eng can be reached on 571-272-7495. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/George Eng/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617

NTH
12/19/08